

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior claim listing and versions in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A ball screw comprising:
 - a spindle;
 - a first thread groove formed on the spindle;
 - a spindle nut arranged on the spindle, a second thread groove formed in the spindle nut, the first thread groove and the second thread groove being shaped and positioned to together form a thread path;
 - balls arranged to roll in the thread path;
 - a receptacle in the spindle nut and opening to the spindle;
 - at least one deflecting piece arranged in the receptacle of the spindle nut, the deflecting piece including a deflecting channel shaped and directed for returning the balls in the thread path from a run-out end to a run-in end of at least one common turn of the thread path, the deflecting piece comprising two partial deflecting pieces including a first partial deflecting piece and a second partial deflecting piece divided from the first partial deflecting piece by a parting plane, the first partial deflecting piece, in an unassembled state before assembly of the ball screw, being formed integrally connected with the second partial deflecting piece;
the deflecting piece comprising a base and two spaced apart side plates attached to the base, one of the side plates being formed on the first partial deflecting piece and the other of the side plates being formed on the second partial deflecting piece, the base and the two spaced apart side plates bounding the deflecting channel.
wherein the two partial deflecting pieces are formed integrally in the unassembled state before assembly point-symmetrically in a sectional plane arranged transversely to the parting plane, the point symmetry being defined with respect to a point of symmetry lying in the parting plane.
2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) The ball screw as claimed in claim 1, wherein the two partial deflecting pieces in the unassembled state are captively connected to one another.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The ball screw as claimed in claim 1, each of the side plates comprising a blade configured to engage between at least one of the balls and the first ~~thread~~ thread groove of the spindle, the blade positioned at a free end of the side plate and facing the first thread groove of the spindle.

6. (Currently Amended) The ball screw as claimed in claim 2, wherein ~~there is~~ a clearance distance is provided between two free ends of the side plates that is less than ~~the~~ a ball diameter of the balls.

7. (Previously Presented) The ball screw as claimed in claim 1, wherein the deflecting piece comprises ball guiding surfaces configured to lift the balls off the first thread groove of the spindle.

8. (Previously Presented) The ball screw as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of the partial deflecting pieces includes a hook and a hook receptacle, the hook and the hook receptacle of each of the two partial deflecting pieces being so positioned and configured that each hook hooks into the hook receptacle of the other deflecting piece so that the deflecting pieces hook in one another and grip one another.

9. (Currently Amended) The ball screw as claimed in claim ~~[[6]]~~ 8, wherein the hook is provided at one circumferential end of each partial deflecting piece and the hook receptacle is provided at an opposite, other circumferential end.

10. (Previously Presented) The ball screw as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of the two partial deflecting pieces comprises thermoplastic material and is produced by an injection-molding process.

11. (Previously Presented) The ball screw as claimed in claim 3, wherein the two partial deflecting pieces are connected by a film hinge.

12. (Previously Presented) The ball screw as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first partial deflecting piece and the second partial deflecting piece are shaped such that the parting plane divides the deflecting channel along a lengthwise direction of the first partial deflecting piece and the second partial deflecting piece.